

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 18, 2004

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 5, 2004

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 21, 2004

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 8, 2004

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 3, 2004

AMENDED IN SENATE JANUARY 6, 2004

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 24, 2003

SENATE BILL

No. 142

Introduced by Senator Alpert

(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Cohn)

(Coauthors: Senators Kuehl, McPherson, and Speier)

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Lieber, Maddox, Maldonado,
Plescia, Richman, and Spitzer)

February 6, 2003

An act to ~~add Section 124978 to~~ amend Section 125001 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to genetic testing.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 142, as amended, Alpert. Genetic testing.

Existing law requires the State Department of Health Services to establish a program for the development and evaluation of genetic disease testing to provide genetic screening and followup services for persons who elect to have the screening. Existing law requires the department to report to the Legislature regarding the progress of the program on or before January 1, 2002.

Existing law requires the department to expand statewide screening of newborns to include tandem mass spectrometry screening for fatty acid oxidation, amino acid, organic acid disorders, and congenital adrenal hyperplasia, and to provide information with respect to these disorders and testing resources to all women receiving prenatal care and admitted to a hospital for delivery. If the department is unable to provide statewide screening for these disorders by July 1, 2005, existing law requires the department to temporarily obtain statewide screening for these disorders from one or more laboratories, through a competitive bid process.

This bill would extend the date by which the department would be required to obtain screening from laboratories by competitive bid to August 1, 2005.

~~Existing law requires the State Department of Health Services to charge a fee for newborn screening and followup services, and requires the amount of the fee to be established pursuant to regulation and periodically adjusted by the director.~~

~~This bill would require the department to convene a working group to evaluate newborn and prenatal screening billing procedures and to report its recommendations to the department by March 1, 2005. The bill would require any written recommendations of the working group to be provided to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 ~~SECTION 1. Section 124978 is added to the Health and~~
2 ~~Safety~~

3 *SECTION 1. Section 125001 of the Health and Safety Code is*
4 *amended to read:*

5 125001. (a) The department shall establish a program for the
6 development, provision, and evaluation of genetic disease testing,
7 and may provide laboratory testing facilities or make grants to,
8 contract with, or make payments to, any laboratory that it deems
9 qualified and cost-effective to conduct testing or with any
10 metabolic specialty clinic to provide necessary treatment with
11 qualified specialists. The program shall provide genetic screening
12 and followup services for persons who have the screening.



(b) The department shall expand statewide screening of newborns to include tandem mass spectrometry screening for fatty acid oxidation, amino acid, and organic acid disorders and congenital adrenal hyperplasia as soon as possible. The department shall provide information with respect to these disorders and testing resources available, to all women receiving prenatal care and to all women admitted to a hospital for delivery. If the department is unable to provide this statewide screening by ~~July~~ *August* 1, 2005, the department shall temporarily obtain these testing services through a competitive bid process from one or more public or private laboratories that meet the department's requirements for testing, quality assurance, and reporting. If the department determines that contracting for these services is more cost-effective, and meets the other requirements of this chapter, than purchasing the tandem mass spectrometry equipment themselves, the department shall contract with one or more public or private laboratories.

(c) The department shall report to the Legislature regarding the progress of the program on or before July 1, 2006. The report shall include the costs for screening, followup, and treatment as compared to costs and morbidity averted for each condition tested for in the program.

~~Code, to read:~~

~~124978. (a) The director shall convene, in the most cost-efficient manner and using existing resources, a working group comprised of health insurance, health care service plan, hospital, consumer, and department representatives to evaluate newborn and prenatal screening fee billing procedures, and to recommend to the department ways to improve these procedures in order to improve efficiencies and enhance revenue collections for the department and hospitals. In performing its duties, the working group may consider models in other states. The working group shall make its recommendations by March 1, 2005.~~

~~(b) Any written recommendations of the working group shall be provided to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature.~~